

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 01887 301754Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DEAE-00  
IO-13 JUSE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 OES-07 OMB-01 AID-05  
AS-01 /078 W

-----011222 301802Z /44

O P 301655Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3719

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 1887

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, BM

SUBJ: THAI - BURMA BORDER INCIDENT SATISFACTORILY CONCLUDED

### SUMMARY:

IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE INCIDENT ON THE THAI-BURMA BORDER IN WHICH THAI HELICOPTER AND POLICE WERE DETAINED HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED. MEMBERS OF RANGOON ATTACHE CORPS AND PRESS WERE TAKEN TO SCENE JUNE 30, BRIEFED ON MOHEIN III OPERATION, AND INFORMED THAT THE HELICOPTER AND THAI POLICE WERE BEING RELEASED. TWO THAI GENERALS WHO WERE ALSO FLOWN TO SCENE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AND REGRET FOR INTRUSION. SENIOR BURMESE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OFFICIAL SAID THAT INVESTIGATION SHOWED THAT INTRUSION HAD BEEN ACCIDENTAL AND THAT INCIDENT HAD THEREFORE BEEN FAVORABLY CONCLUDED. THAI GENERAL CALLED FOR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THAI-BURMA COOPERATION IN THE CONDUCT OF FUTURE JOINT OPERATIONS. OUR ATTACHES RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT BURMESE RETAIN SOME RESERVATIONS BUT OVERALL ATOMSPHERE WAS CORDIAL. END SUMMARY.

1. ON 30 JUNE AT INVITATION OF BURMA DEFENSE SERVICES, RANGOON  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RANGOO 01887 301754Z

ATTACHE CORPS AND NEWS MEDIA REPS VISITED THE MOHEIN III OPERATION AREA. THEY WERE BRIEFED IN DETAIL ON THE OPERATIONS AND WERE SHOWN SEIZED NARCOTICS AND CHEMICALS, AS WELL AS REFINERY SITE AND COMBINED HEADQUARTERS OF SUA AND OTHER INSURGENTS.

2. IN AFTERNOON, THE GROUP WAS SHOWN THE THAI POLICE HELICOPTER AND HELICOPTER CREW AND 27 THAI POLICE WHO HAD BEEN DETAINED BY THE

BURMESE. WEAPONS OF THE THAIS WERE ALSO DISPLAYED ALONG WITH CHEMICALS FOUND AT THE NEARBY REFINERY SITE.

3. SENIOR BURMESE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER (KYAW HTOON) DESCRIBED THE HELICOPTER INCIDENT IN FACTUAL MANNER. HE GAVE DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION OF THE INCIDENT BY THE BURMESE WHICH GENERALLY SUPPORTED THE THAI CLAIM THAT HELICOPTER HAD BEEN INADVERTENTLY INSERTED IN COURSE OF THAI BLOCKING OPERATION. HE POINTED OUT SOME OF THE GROUNDS FOR THE INITIAL SUSPICION ENTERTAINED BY THE BURMESE, PARTICULARLY THE LOCATION OF THE HELIPAD AT THE SUA HEADQUARTERS, BUT HE DID NOT UNDULY STRESS THESE NEGATIVE ASPECT.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY, FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS AT MINISTRY OF DEFENSE IN RANGOON, THAI LT. GEN GHUAN THONG, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF HEADQUARTERS SUPREME COMMAND AND MAJOR GENERAL ARD, DEPUTY DIRECTOR JOINT INTELLIGENCE, ARRIVED ON THE SCENE WITH COL. THAN NYUNT OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF BURMA MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. THEY WERE TAKEN TO VIEW THE HELICOPTER AND THE THAI POLICE, WHO GREETED THEM WITH ENTHUSIASM. COL. THAN NYUNT MADE A FORMAL STATEMENT IN PRAISE OF THE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THAILAND AND BURMA, RECOUNTED BRIEFLY THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE DETENTION OF THE HELICOPTER AND POLICE AND STATED THAT THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION HAD INDICATED NO IMPROPER INTENTIONS ON THE PART OF THE THAI. HE SAID THE AIRCRAFT WAS ACCORDINGLY BEING CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RANGOO 01887 301754Z

RELEASED AND THE POLICE REPATRIATED FOR WHATEVER APPROPRIATE ACTION MIGHT BE DETERMINED BY THE THAI OFFICIALS. COL THAN NYUNT'S CORDIAL REMARKS WERE FOLLOWED BY A SHORT RESPONSE BY LT. GEN. THUAN THONG, THANKING THE BURMESE FOR THEIR COOPERATION AND EMPHASIZING THE EXCELLENT THAI- BURMA RELATIONS. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR GREATER EFFORT TO IMPROVE THAI-BURMA COOPERATION IN FUTURE JOINT OPERATIONS.

5. THE ATTACHES WERE SHOWN SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF SEIZED NARCOTICS AND CHEMICALS, AND WERE TOLD THAT THE SEARCH WAS STILL CONTINUING AND ADDITIONAL DISCOVERIES WERE STILL TAKING PLACE. A FIFTH REFINERY SITE WAS DISCOVERED WHILE THE ATTACHES WERE AT THE SCENE OF OPERATIONS. THE BURMESE STATED THAT THE OPERATION WOULD PROBABLY CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL MORE DAYS. THE THAI MILITARY ATTACHE TOLD DATT THAT HE ALSO EXPECTED THE THAI POLICE ELEMENTS TO CONTINUE THE SEARCH FOR NARCOTICS IN THE UFI BORDER AREA.

6. COMMENT: THE ATMOSPHERE THROUGHOUT THESE EVENTS WAS ONE OF CORDIAL COOPERATION, PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN OF THAI AND BURMESE OFFICIALS SHAKING HANDS AND SMILING.

AT EACH OTHER. WHILE THE ATTACHES NOTED SIGNS OF CONTINUED  
BURMESE SUSPICION, THE SUSPICIONS SEEMED NOT TO BE  
BASED ON HARD INFORMATION AND DID NOT MATERIALLY DETRACT FROM THE  
OVERALL  
CORDIALITY OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

7. FULLER DETAILS WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.  
OSBORN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, DETENTION, BORDER INCIDENTS, POLICE FORCES, HELICOPTERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977RANGOO01887  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770234-0187  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** RANGOON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977063/aaaaabwv.tel  
**Line Count:** 124  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** fa6e6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2064727  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THAI - BURMA BORDER INCIDENT SATISFACTORILY CONCLUDED SUMMARY: IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE INCIDENT ON THE THAI-BURMA  
**TAGS:** SNAR, MOPS, BM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/fa6e6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009